



MEETING OF THE ELHN General Assembly

19 May 2025 Online

Participants: Cristina Borderias (conference organizer) , Brendan von Briesen (Artisan and Guild Labour), Llorenz Ferrer Alos (conference organizer), Rosa Kösters (chair), Görkem Akgöz (Workplaces: Past and Present), Anne Montenach (Labour and Family Economy), Eszter Varsa (Feminist Labour History), Beatrice Zucca (Labour and Family Economy) , Sophia Friedel (Economic and Industrial Democracy), Teresa Petrik (Labour and Coercion), Christine de Matos (Military Labour), Nadia Latif (Labour and Migration History), Donald Weber (website), Nico Pizzolato (Workplaces: Past and Present), Sigfrido Ramirez (European trade Unionism), Lorenzo Costaguta (Labour and Empire), Jonas Soderqvist (Worker's Education), and Jacqueline Rutte (Network committee)

Chair: Rosa Kösters

Absent: Leda Papastefanaki

1. Opening

Rosa opens the meeting. Because Leda is absent today she will chair the meeting.

2. Minutes

There are no comments on the minutes

3. Proposal new working group

Brendan has sent in a proposal for a new working group (Artisan and Guild Labour). He will coordinate this working group together with José Antolín Nieto Sánchez (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid) and Mario Grassi (Università di Padova). The new working group wants to participate in the Barcelona conference, they will write a call for papers and a text so that Donald can add the working group to the website.

The new working group is accepted unanimously.

4. 2026 Barcelona Conference

We welcome the organizers of the conference to this meeting. They inform us about the conference. A few dates have changed and they are working on the website. That is hopefully finished by the end of this month. Information about registration and hotels will be put on the website once it is working. Llorenz urges the meeting to book hotels and flights on time, Barcelona is rather expensive.

Conference organizers in Barcelona open an online portal for panel submissions from the Working Groups. (**September 1, 2025**) Closing of the online portal, that is the deadline for submission of panels by Working Groups is October 1, 2025.

Each Working Group will present a maximum of six sessions. **Joint sessions** among Working

Groups is something extra: Working Groups organizing joint sessions can have **one more session**. Roundtables, etc. also count as a session.

Each session will have a duration of 1:30, which allows for a maximum of 5 papers per session. Beyond this, double sessions would be necessary.

Please note that the Working Groups are responsible for accepting papers. However, if a working group organizes more sessions than the maximum, they will need permission from the organizers in Barcelona.

Each Working Group will have a space on the Congress website for each session, providing information on each panel, the authors and proposals, and the chair(s) and discussant(s), contact emails, and abstracts.

Questions are posed by the participants, all answers will be formulated in a new version of the Work Plan that will be circulated by Jacqueline after this meeting.

There will be 2 slots with each 10 possibilities for working group meetings, during these meetings no other sessions will be planned.

The fees are yet provisional. All working groups must write their calls for papers asap including the sentence: *The 6th conference of the European Labour History Network (ELHN) will take place in Barcelona, Spain, from 16 to 19 June 2026. Registration to the ELHN Conference is expected to open in February 2026. More details will follow. Costs of registration, travel and subsistence are at the expense of the participants. There will be a reduced registration fee for students and scholars without institutional affiliation. If you have an urgent request, please contact the network at elhn@iisg.nl*

5. Website

Donald urges the working groups to send him their calls for papers asap, September is nearing rapidly. All the calls will be published on this page:

<https://socialhistoryportal.org/elhn>

6. Working Group Updates

Eszter Varsa (Feminist Labour History). Their call for papers for Barcelona is already published. She is looking to organize joint sessions with other working groups. They are also working on a conference in Warschau.

Sophia Friedel (Economic and Industrial Economy). They are restructuring their working group. Sophia is now joint coordinator with Aurélie Andry. They are also looking for joint sessions.

Donald Weber (Website) the new Artisan and Guild Labour working group is now accepted and Donald asks them for their text so that he can create a page for this working group. He also likes to receive their cfp.

Lorenzo Costaguta (Labour and Empire) They will soon publish 2 special issues. Their cfp is published and he too is looking for joint sessions.

Christine de Matos (Military Labour) their cfp is almost ready for publication. They are about to send a new book about military labour for publishing with Palgrave. Publication is expected in 2026. They have started working on a new project together with Fia Sundeval as co-editor "What is military labour".

Nico Pizzolato (workplaces Past and Present) they did 3 book reviews, they are still busy with their pod-cast and they have the cfp almost ready.

Conference 2028

Rosa asks the participants to think about a possible venue for the 2028 conference. All ideas and questions can be sent to the steering committee.

Jonas urges to take into account that the Nordic Labour conference will take place in June 2028. The next ELHN conference should not coincide with the Nordic conference.

7. Next Meeting

We will organize a next coordinators meeting early 2026. During that meeting we will discuss (a.o.) the update of the Barcelona conference and the final fees.

Rosa closes the meeting by thanking the Barcelona organizers for their presence and hard work.